



- Plant trees, shrubs or climbing vines to restrict access to tempting walls. Plants with thorns should be placed near walls to help deter vandals access.
- Use good lighting to deter vandals from popular graffiti sites.
- Encourage your neighbors to adopt a wall or area to keep it clean, maintained, and graffiti free.
- Clear security window films can be easily attached to storefront windows and doors. Graffiti and etching will be on the security film, which can then be peeled off and a new one applied. The cost of replacing security window films is a lot less than replacing a glass window or door.

To have graffiti removed  
call the South Pasadena 24-Hour

**Graffiti Hotline**  
**626-403-7249**

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South Pasadena Police Department  
1422 Mission Street  
South Pasadena, CA 91030  
626-403-7270

**EMERGENCY**  
**9-1-1**

# Graffiti

## What Can Be Done



**South Pasadena  
Police Department**

Brian Solinsky  
Chief of Police

Although, many youth gangs use graffiti to mark territory, only 10 percent is thought to be gang related. The remaining 90 percent is done by “taggers”.

“Taggers” are young people who are not necessarily gang affiliated, but still engage in graffiti. They are seeking recognition from their peers and wish to “show-off” their work.

Whether done by gang members or taggers, the mere presence of graffiti can hurt property values, drive away business, and sends the message that nobody cares about the community. Each year graffiti costs American communities more than eight billion dollars!

**If you see someone committing graffiti, call the South Pasadena Police Dept. at 626-403-7297**

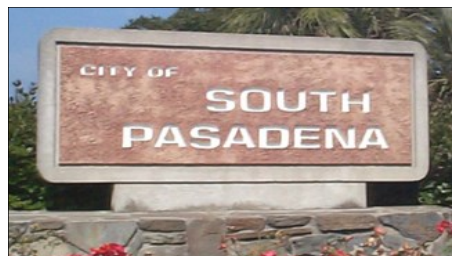
**In an emergency remember to dial 9-1-1**

### **Graffiti is a community problem**

What can you do to help combat graffiti? There are many ways you can help prevent graffiti and keep South Pasadena looking beautiful.

### **Report It**

- Report graffiti immediately! The sooner it is reported, the sooner it can be removed.
- If you see graffiti in progress, report it, but don't try to intervene.
- Encourage everyone in your neighborhood to take an active role and report graffiti as soon as it happens.
- Help contact the property owner whose building has been vandalized by graffiti.
- Take a photo of the graffiti. It may provide information that can lead to the identification of the vandals.



### **Remove It**

- Remove graffiti promptly is the best way to prevent it. It helps denies the vandals work to others.
- Consider painting a mural over a graffiti. Involve your neighborhood in painting a mural. Vandals seldom put graffiti on murals.
- Call the South Pasadena Graffiti Hotline at 626-403-7249 to have graffiti removed. This is a 24-hour recording, but graffiti on private property requires a signed authorization prior to removing.

### **Prevent It**

- Rapid removal is one of the best ways to prevent future graffiti. Removing graffiti tells the vandals that your neighborhood cares about the community and their work has little chance of being seen.
- Plain smooth surfaces invite graffiti. For walls, choose patterned and rough concrete surfaces or tiled or mosaic surfaces; for fences, use chain, lattice or wooden picket fences.
- Choose paints and coatings to deter graffiti. Dark colors make graffiti harder to see. Anti-graffiti coatings are available as well and help make clean-up easier.